

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

FEA-01 ACDA-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-03 ERDA-05 EUR-12

/105 W

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P R 152050Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1511

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 8079

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH; ENRG; PARM; GW; US

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN CONGRESS CONSIDERS NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH
WEST GERMANY

1. SUMMARY: ON SEPTEMBER 8, LYSANEAS MACIEL, COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, CLAIMED
THAT USG, ACTING UNDER US-BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT FOR
COOPERATION, GAVE GOB GREEN LIGHT FOR BRAZILIAN
GERMAN NUCLEAR ACCORD. GOB SPOKESMEN PROMPTLY
DENIED THE ALLEGATION. EMBASSY CONSIDERS THIS
INCIDENCE FURTHER EVIDENCE OF BRAZILIAN SENSITIVITY
TO POSSIBLE US EFFORTS TO EXTEND SAFEGUARDS UNDER
FUTURE AMENDED AGREEMENT TO PARTS OF BRAZIL'S
NUCLEAR PROGRAM NOT SUPPLIED THROUGH THE US. END SUMMARY.

2. LYSANEAS MACIEL, LIBERAL MDB "AUTENTICO" AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE CHAMBER'S COMMISSION ON MINES AND
ENERGY, RECEIVED BROAD PRESS PLAY WHEN HE CHARGED ON SEPT 8
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(ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS) THAT THE US-

BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION ON THE CIVIL
USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY:

--CONTAINS THE CONDITION THAT THE USG APPROVE ALL OF
BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING ANY AGREEMENTS
WITH THIRD COUNTRIES ON NUCLEAR SUBJECTS, FOR
A PERIOD OF THIRTY YEARS (THE DURATION OF THE
AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION); AND,

--THEREFORE, THE EXISTENCE OF THIS AGREEMENT MUST LEAD
TO THE CONCLUSION THAT BRAZIL COULD HAVE CONCLUDED
THE AGREEMENT WITH GERMANY ONLY BECAUSE WASHINGTON
HAD GIVEN THE "GREEN LIGHT."

3. THE NEXT DAY, SEPT 9, ARENA SENATOR VIRGILIO
TAVORA, SPEAKING IN THE SENATE IN THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT
SPOKESMAN, STRONGLY DENIED MACIEL'S CHARGES.
ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, TAVORA SAID THE BRAZILIAN/US
AGREEMENT "DID NOT IMPEDE THE COUNTRY FROM DETERMINING
FREELY ITS POLICY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR
TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT." ON THE SAME DAY, THE VICE-
LEADER OF ARENA IN THE HOUSE, JOSE BONIFACIO, MADE
A SIMILAR STATEMENT, AS DID HERVASIO CARVALHO, CHAIRMAN
OF THE BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY COMMISSION, WHO
TESTIFIED BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMISSION ON MINES AND
ENERGY.

4. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, MACIEL, IN HIS SEPT 8 REMARKS,
ALSO MADE THE POINT THAT HEARINGS ON THE GERMAN/BRAZILIAN
AGREEMENT BY THE COMMISSION ON MINES AND ENERGY WERE NEEDED
IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THE "SIGNIFICANCE" OF THE US-BRAZILIAN
AGREEMENT FOR THE GERMAN/BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT.

5. SEPT 14 EDITION OF JORNAL DE BRASILIA CARRIED MACIEL'S
ALLEGATIONS ONCE AGAIN, IN THE NEWS-OF-THE-WEEK ROUNDUP, BUT
FAILED TO MENTION THE GOB'S DENIAL.

6. COMMENT: THE PROMPTNESS AND STRENGTH OF THE GOB'S REAC-
TION TO MACIEL'S ALLEGATIONS ARE FURTHER EVIDENCE OF BRAZILIAN
SENSITIVITY TO ANY POSSIBLE USG EFFORT TO OBTAIN SAFEGUARDS
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IN THE AMENDED AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD APPLY TO PARTS OF BRAZIL'S
NUCLEAR PROGRAM NOT SUPPLIED THROUGH THE US. IF MACIEL
HOLDS HEARINGS ON THE INTERFACE BETWEEN THE AGREEMENT AND
THE BRAZILIAN/GERMAN AGREEMENT, PUBLIC ATTENTION COULD BE
DRAWN TO THIS SENSITIVE AND COMPLEX ISSUE.
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